Congress of the United States

Washington, B.C. 20515

February 22, 2021

Dear Senate Colleagues:

As leaders of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus (CAPAC), we write to reiterate our strong support for Neera Tanden's confirmation to become the Director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). Ms. Tanden is a strong, experienced leader who is ready and qualified to tackle the urgent economic and financial policy decisions facing our nation as we work to recover from the coronavirus crisis and rebuild an economy that works for all Americans.

Ms. Tanden's substantial policy, legislative, and executive branch experience makes her exceptionally qualified to lead the OMB and ensure that our nation's budgets and programs reflect our shared values of hard work, fairness, and respect. As a daughter of a single mother who relied on public housing and food stamps to survive, Ms. Tanden understands firsthand the struggles that many Americans face every day and the pivotal role that government can play in leveling the playing field and creating an economy that works for working families.

As a former senior advisor during the Clinton and Obama administrations, a former legislative director in the U.S. Senate, and in her role as President and Chief Executive Officer of the Center for American Progress, Ms. Tanden is widely recognized as an expert in domestic, economic, and foreign policy. Not only is she a leading architect of bold policies designed to support working families, foster broad-based economic growth, and curb rampant inequality, but she is also a pragmatic policy maker who understands the importance of working across the aisle to find common ground on initiatives that will move our nation forward.

Throughout her career, Ms. Tanden has worked with both Republicans and Democrats to advance critical bipartisan policy initiatives from expanding the Child Tax Credit to pushing for greater healthcare access to advocating for robust skills training and innovation in education. She has also advanced practical policy solutions by working with organizations like the American Enterprise Institute, the McCain Institute for International Leadership, and R Street Institute, and will continue to prioritize commonsense policy solutions over politics as OMB Director.

Ms. Tanden's nomination also bears historic significance for the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) communities that we represent. If confirmed, she would be the first Asian American and first woman of color to lead OMB, and we are proud that President Biden has chosen Ms. Tanden to play such a critical role in his Administration as we work to defeat the coronavirus pandemic, address systemic inequality, and rebuild an economy that serves the dignity of all people.

We urge the Senate to swiftly confirm her nomination so we can get to work to address the challenges facing our nation.

Judy Chu Member of Congress

Mark Takano Member of Congress

Doris O. Matsui Member of Congress

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Andy Kim Member of Congress

Marilyn Strickland Member of Congress Gumes

Ted W. Lien

Grace Meng Member of Congress

Ted W. Lieu Member of Congress

Ami Bera, M.D. Member of Congress

Raja Krishnamoorthi Member of Congress

Kaiali'i Kahele Member of Congress